

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 CU-04 IO-14 OMB-01

NIC-01 DRC-01 /145 W

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R 140708Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 837

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HU

SUBJECT: CSCE: HUNGARY TAKES THE OFFENSIVE

REF: BUDAPEST 0274

DEPT PASS ALL CSCE CAPITALS. VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR.

1. FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL IN FEB 10 "NEPSZABADSAG" CALLED ON WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES AT CSCE TO MOVE CONFERENCE AWAY FROM PRESENT STANDSTILL BY RECOGNIZING THAT PILLARS OF EUROPEAN SECURITY ARE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, NON-INTERFERENCE IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS, AND RESPECT FOR LAWS, TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS OF OTHERS.

2. HARD-HITTING EDITORIAL IS ENTITLED "INTENTIONS AND REALITIES", APPEARS AS REPLY TO WEST'S ATTEMPTS TO GAIN CONCESSIONS FROM WP MEMBERS ON BASKET 3 PROPOSALS. WEST ACCUSED OF USING "FREE FLOW OF MEN AND IDEAS" CONCEPT TO ATTACK SOCIALISM AND SOVIETS, AND NOT TO PROMOTE LEGITIMATE CULTURAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN EAST AND WEST. CLAIMS WUP HAS NO OBJECTION TO "FREER FLOW" CONCEPT, BUT THAT IT MUST BE BASED ON NEW EUROPEAN CHARTER WHICH

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WOULD ENSURE THAT LAWS AND CONSTITUTIONS OF COUNTRIES

INVOLVED ARE NOT VIOLATED. IF WEST'S INTENTION IS TO PROMOTE EUROPEAN SECURITY, IT MUST BE REALISTIC ENOUGH TO ACCEPT WP INSISTENCE THAT, ALTHOUGH NEGOTIATING ORDER OF FOUR AGENDA ITEMS NOT IMPOTANT, ASSURANCES THAT SATISFACTORY DECLARATIO KOF PRINCIPLES WILL BE INCLUDED IN PREAMBLE IS NECESSARY PRECONDITION.

3. ARTICLE STRESSES THAT, CONTRARY TO BEING DEFENSIVE ABOUT BASKET 3 PROPOSALS, WP COUNTRIES ARE PROUD OF THEIR CULTURE AND EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS, AND LONG TIME AGO UNDERTAKEN CONTACT WITH WEST IN THESE AREAS. IDEA THAT PRESS IS FREE IN CAPITALIST WORLD IS FICTION, ARTICLE CLAIMS, ADDING THAT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ALREADY ENGAGED IN FREER MOVEMENT OF FOREIGN MATERIALS THAN IS WEST.

4. FOLLOWING PAGE OF "NEPSZABADSAG" HAD ARTICLE ON "CAMPAIGN AGAINST FREEDOM OF INFORMATION IN US". IN STORY ALMOST DEVOID OF FACTUAL INFORMATION ABC TV ACCUSED OF SUPPRESSING TV SHOW BECAUSE OF PARTICIPATION ANTI-WAR LEADERS. FRANK STANTON, FORMER CHAIRMAN CBS, QUOTED AS SAYING CAMPAIGN AGAINST PRESS NOW GOING ON IN STATES AND PRESS FREEDOM THERE IS ILLUSION. WE WERE SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD THIS WAS SIMPLY REPRINT OF TASS ARTICLE.

5. REVERSAL OF GOH DEFENSIVE STANCE ON BASKET 3 PROPOSALS INTO A COUNTERATTACK COULD BE CONNECTED WITH RECENT WP POLITICAL CONFERENCES. "NEPSZABADSAG" ARTICLE SEEMINGLY DESIGNED TO INDICATE ONCE MORE THAT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES DO NOT FEAR "FREER MOVEMENT" DESPITE ALLEGED ATTEMPTS OF WEST TO USE ISSUE AS PRETEXT TO INTERFERE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF WP MEMBERS. ARGUMENTS WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL IN LAYING GROUNDWORK FOR BLAMING WESTERN POWERS IF CSCE EITHER BOGGED DOWN OR COLLAPSED COMPLETELY. ALTHOUGH HUNGARIAN PRESS IN PAST HAS DEALT WITH BASKET 3 ISSUE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS TONE OF "NEPSZABADSAG" EDITORIAL WAS SHARPER THAN USUAL AND IT WAS CONSIDERABLY LONGER THAN MOST FRONT PAGE EDITORIALS (2 1/2 INSTEAD OF ONE COLUMN).
PEDERSEN

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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ALL CSCE CAPITALS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 14 FEB 1974
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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